

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed February 9, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Three Month Extension of Time*, which extends the shortened statutory period for response to August 9, 2006. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on May 29, 1998; October 13, 1998; June 2, 1999; September 13, 1999; May 18, 2000; September 6, 2000; November 2, 2000; January 29, 2001; April 9, 2001; July 17, 2001; September 12, 2001; February 28, 2002; October 1, 2002; October 11, 2002; March 5, 2003; and November 14, 2005.

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 21, 22 and 25-49 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Claims 2, 6-8, 21, 22 and 25-49 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; and new claims 50-120 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. The Applicant appreciates Examiner Duong's time in conducting a telephone interview during the week of May 1, 2006. During the interview, agreement was reached that claim 5 is allowed. Also, Examiner Duong requested that this agreement be summarized in the present *Amendment*. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5 and 50-120 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 5 and 50-83 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1-3, 21, 22, 28, 29, 31, 39, 40 and 42 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1, 3, 6, 9, 12 and 16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,693,681 to Takemura. The Official Action rejects claims 30, 32-34, 41 and 43-45 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16 and 18 of Takemura, and U.S. Patent No. 4,955,697 to Tsukada et al. As noted above, claims 2, 6-8, 21, 22 and 25-49 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; therefore, the rejections of these claims are now moot. With respect to

claims 1 and 3, the Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 1 of the subject application is patentably distinct from the claims of the Takemura patent and Tsukada.

As stated in MPEP § 804, under the heading "Obviousness-Type," in order to form an obviousness-type double patenting rejection, a claim in the present application must define an invention that is merely an obvious variation of an invention claimed in the prior art patent, and the claimed subject matter must not be patentably distinct from the subject matter claimed in a commonly owned patent. Also, the patent principally underlying the double patenting rejection is not considered prior art.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Independent claim 1 of the present application has been amended to recite an insulating flattening film over a wiring (for a capacitance) and a reverse stagger type amorphous silicon thin film transistor, which is supported in the present specification, for example, by Figures 1(A) and 5; and page 14, lines 16-20.

The claims of Takemura and Tsukada do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features. It is respectfully submitted that the claims of the present application are not a timewise extension of the invention as claimed in the Takemura patent, either alone or in combination with Tsukada. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejections are requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 25-34 and 39-45 as obvious based on the combination of JP 01-156725 and Tsukada. The Official Action rejects claims 35-38 and 46-49 as obvious based on the combination of Figure 2B of the present specification, which the Official Action refers to as "Applicant's Prior Art" or "APA," and Tsukada. As noted above, claims 25-49 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; therefore, the rejections of these claims are now moot.

New claims 50-120 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled.

New independent claim 50 further limits claim 1 in that claim 50 recites that a sum of a capacitance between the transparent pixel electrode and the gate line and the capacitance between the transparent pixel electrode and the wiring is above ten times as large as a difference between the capacitance between the transparent pixel electrode and the gate line and the capacitance between the transparent pixel electrode and the wiring. This feature is supported in the present specification, for example, at page 7, lines 8-13.

New independent claim 51 further limits claim 1 in that claim 51 recites that a capacitance induced by an overlap between the data line and the transparent pixel electrode is smaller than the capacitances between the transparent pixel electrode and the gate line and the transparent pixel electrode and the wiring. This feature is supported in the present specification, for example, by the first full paragraph of page 13.

New independent claim 52 is a combination of claims 50 and 51.

New independent claim 53 further limits claim 1 in that claim 53 recites that when a first pulse is applied to the gate line, a second pulse having an opposite polarity to the first pulse is applied to the wiring. This feature is supported in the present specification, for example, by the first paragraph of page 8.

New independent claim 54 further limits claim 53 regarding the timing of the first and second pulses. This feature is supported in the present specification, for example, by the second full paragraph of page 5.

New independent claims 55-60 recite various combinations of the above referenced features.

New independent claims 61-72 are similar to claims 55-60 but the specific feature of a thin film transistor is omitted in claims 61-72.

New independent claims 73-77 are similar to claims 52, 54, 56 and 59 but the specific features of an insulating flattening film and a pixel electrode being transparent are omitted in claims 73-77.

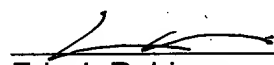
New independent claims 78-80 are supported in the present specification, for example, by Figure 1(B), in that a pixel electrode overlaps a second gate line to form a capacitor.

New independent claims 81-83 are also supported in the present specification, for example, by Figure 1(B).

For the reasons stated above and already of record, the Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 50-120 are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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